

HONORING NICHOLAS STEPHENS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 14, 2011*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nicholas Stephens. Nicholas is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 337, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nicholas has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nicholas has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Nicholas has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nicholas Stephens for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 14, 2011*

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 537, my vote was not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

INTRODUCTION OF THE 21ST  
CENTURY READINESS ACT OF 2011**HON. THOMAS E. PETRI**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 14, 2011*

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, in order for our students to be competitive in the global economy, we must do our part to ensure that they are acquiring the knowledge and skills they need for success.

The skills needed for success go beyond the basics of reading, writing, and math, however. When surveyed, employers continually emphasize that, in our 21st century economy, students need to be adept at critical thinking and problem solving; communication; collaboration; and creativity and innovation, in addition to being proficient in core subjects.

Sixteen states, as well as local school districts from across the country, have formed a partnership with over thirty leading education organizations and corporate entities to find ways to strengthen 21st century skills in their K-12 classrooms. However, this momentum isn't sustainable unless federal policy gives states and districts the flexibility to innovate in this direction.

To remedy this, Representative DAVE LOEBACK and I are introducing the 21st Century Readiness Act. This bill does not create any new programs or authorize additional spending; instead, it would amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, ESEA,

to emphasize the importance of 21st century skills and give states and districts added flexibility to develop and enhance these skills as part of their own initiatives.

A growing coalition of states and school districts has recognized the importance of giving our students the tools they need to succeed in our 21st century workforce. This bill will give them the flexibility to succeed in these efforts.

I hope that our colleagues will join us in this effort.

## HONORING MATTHEW GIBSON

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 14, 2011*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Gibson. Matthew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 337, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matthew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Matthew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Matthew has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Gibson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

## CELEBRATING COACH VIC ROWEN

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 14, 2011*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Vic Rowen, a man whose distinguished career as Head Football Coach for the San Francisco State University Gators for 28 years, earned him the highest accolades.

On June 4, 2011, the San Francisco State University unveiled a statue to commemorate Coach Rowen's service as well as that of his predecessor, Coach Joe Verducci. These men were honored for exemplifying "the highest ideals of academic performance and competitive athletics" as well as demonstrating "personal accomplishments as men of honor and character." The statue was paid for by grateful players, colleagues, alumni, staff and friends.

Born in Brooklyn, New York in 1919, Coach Rowen played football in college before earning a doctorate in physical education at Columbia University. He held several coaching positions and then joined San Francisco State in 1954 as Joe Verducci's assistant. He became head football coach in 1961. (Coach Verducci passed away in 1964.)

Coach Rowen's tenure covered over half the span of time that football was played at San Francisco State. In his early years, the school won eight Far Western Conference titles and attracted top talent, but after a student strike in 1968, the football program was

severely diminished by budget cuts. Rowen continued to train players and especially coaches (including his son Keith) who excelled in the sport, although the school's winning record was curtailed. My son, Ed Critchett, an all-American inspired by Vic Rowen cherishes the time he spent with the Gators in the 1980s. Rowen retired in 1989, and football was discontinued at the school in 1995.

Also a respected physical education teacher at the University, some of Rowen's other accomplishments include Northern California Coach of the Year, President and Board Member of the American Football Coaches Association, Football Writers Association of America Award, and the Ernie Nevers Award National Football Foundation's College Football Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Coach Vic Rowen on the tribute he and Coach Verducci received on 6/4/11. Vic Rowen was a man who influenced both the character and the skills of hundreds of young men and women at San Francisco State University and is loved and respected by all. I thank him for his commitment and service.

CLEAN WATER COOPERATIVE  
FEDERALISM ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 13, 2011*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2018) to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to preserve the authority of each State to make determinations relating to the State's water quality standards, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the so-called "Clean Water Cooperative Federalism Act of 2011", H.R. 2018. This misguided bill would undermine the Clean Water Act and significantly limit the federal government's ability to ensure that our nation's rivers, lakes, and streams are pollution-free.

This legislation is an unprecedented attack on the Clean Water Act. Because H.R. 2018 would make the water we drink less clean, I think it is fair to call this legislation what it is: The Dirty Water Act.

Sadly, the Dirty Water Act is the latest in a long line of bills from the majority that puts big polluters before the health and safety of the American people. From the Dirty Air Act that would remove EPA's statutory authority to regulate carbon pollution to legislation that removes accountability for offshore drilling operations, the majority seems intent on rolling back programs that preserve our environment, protect our public health, and grow our economy.

Since the Clean Water Act was enacted in 1972, water quality safeguards have been collaborative effort between States and the Federal government. The Federal government reviews State water pollution control decisions to assure that they reflect up-to-date science and protect water in downstream locations in other States. The Clean Water Act was written wisely to allow pollution safeguards to grow with the scientific understanding of the dangers posed by various chemicals and with the technical means of controlling these chemicals.